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TO: Examiner: Gabel  
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FROM: Pamela M. Guy  
Registration No: 51,228

REFERENCE: Serial No. 09/575,061  
Filed: May 19, 2000  
Entitled: DIAGNOSIS, PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF CROHN'S DISEASE  
USING THE PmpC ANTIGEN

DOCKET: P-PM 4097

DATE: October 31, 2002

NO. OF PAGES (Including this page): 3

**LIST ALL DOCUMENTS BEING TRANSMITTED:**

1. This fax cover sheet (1 page)
2. Proposed Amendment (2 pages)

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INFORMAL COMMUNICATION

To: Examiner Gabel  
Group Art Unit: 1578  
Unofficial Fax Number: (703) 305-3014

From: Pamela Guy  
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Serial No.: 09/575,061  
Filed: May 19, 2000  
Our Docket: P-PM 4097

Today's Date: October 31, 2002

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Below is a proposed amendment to claim 2 that we believe will address the outstanding indefiniteness rejection of claims 2 to 7. We would like to discuss the proposed claim amendment with you during our telephone interview on Monday, November 4, at 2:00 p.m. EDT. We also would like to discuss the outstanding novelty and obviousness rejections. We appreciate the opportunity to discuss these matters with you.

Proposed Amendment

2. (Three Times Amended) A method of diagnosing Crohn's disease in a subject, comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining a sample from a subject suspected of having inflammatory bowel disease;
- (b) contacting the sample with an OmpC antigen, or reactive fragment thereof, under conditions suitable to form a

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complex of the OmpC antigen, or reactive fragment thereof, and IgA antibody to the OmpC antigen;

(c) contacting said complex with [an] a labeled anti-IgA antibody to form a labeled complex; and

(d) detecting said labeled complex, thereby determining the presence [or absence] of IgA anti-OmpC antibodies,

where the presence of said IgA anti-OmpC antibodies in said subject indicates that said subject has Crohn's disease.

Support for the amendment to claim 2 can be found in the specification, which indicates that an anti-IgA antibody can be a labeled antibody, such as a goat anti-human IgA antibody labeled with alkaline phosphatase (page 37, lines 23-26). The specification describes other labeled secondary antibodies that are labeled with a moiety other than an enzyme, such as an anti-gamma chain specific antibody labeled with fluorescein (page 39, lines 12-16).

Respectfully submitted,

October 31, 2002  
Date

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